

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

OFFICE OF  
**Technology Transitions**



# DE-LC-000L098 FY23 Technology Commercialization Fund (TCF) CLIMR Lab Call

Informational Webinar  
January 4, 2023, 1 p.m. ET



# Housekeeping

- All applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully read the entire lab call and adhere to the stated submission requirements.
- This presentation summarizes the contents of lab call. If there are any inconsistencies between the lab call and this presentation or statements from DOE personnel, the lab call is the controlling document and applicants should rely on the lab call language and **seek clarification from OTT at TCF@hq.doe.gov.**
- Everyone has been placed on mute.
- **Please provide your questions through the Q&A feature.** We will endeavor to answer questions at the end of webinar. All questions will go into the formal Q&A log and will be answered and publicly posted to Exchange.
- The Informational Webinar will be recorded and sent to all National Lab TTO POCs listed in Appendix C of the lab call.

# Agenda

- Webinar Purpose
- Key Dates
- General Information
- Budget per Project
- Estimated Funding for this Solicitation
- Background
- Eligibility
- Cost-Share
- Topics
- Partnering
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA)
- Concept Paper Stage
- Full Application Stage
- Selections and Notification
- Questions

## Webinar Purpose

- The purpose of today's webinar is to:
  - **Provide an overview of the lab call**
  - Highlight specific areas in the lab call that are **unique for FY23**

# Key Dates

KEY DATES	
Solicitation Issue Date	December 14, 2022
Informational Webinar	January 4, 2023, 1:00 p.m. (ET)
Informational Webinar on DEIA	January 4, 2023, 2:30 p.m. (ET)
PROPOSAL DEADLINE AND DECISION DATES	
Submission Deadline for Concept Papers	January 25, 2023, 3:00 p.m. (ET)
Submission Deadline for Full Applications (See Section II.A.iii.)	March 17, 2023, 3:00 p.m. (ET)
Expected Date for Selection Notifications	Q3 FY23

# General Information

Means of Submission for Applications	Exchange (DE-LC-000L098) DOE will not review or consider proposals submitted through other means.
Total Amount to be Provided	DOE estimates to make available approximately \$17.3 – \$20.4 million of Federal funding for award under this Solicitation, subject to the availability of appropriated FY23 funds. DOE may issue one, multiple, or no awards.
Estimated Number of Projects:	5–15
Estimated Project Duration:	1–3 years
Eligible Entities	All U.S. Department of Energy National Laboratories, Plants, and Sites
Cost Share	This lab call is subject to Section 988(b)(3) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 regarding cost share. DOE prefers all funded projects to meet 50% of the total project cost-share fund requirement; however, DOE acknowledges that some potentially high-impact proposed projects may not be able to meet this requirement. In this case, labs may apply with less than 50% cost share. The scoring criteria reflect that providing cost share will increase the likelihood of selection.
Submission of Multiple Proposals	Though there is no limit on the number of concept papers submitted, each National Laboratory ORTA TTO may submit <b>no more than two full project applications that include only single-lab participation under Topics 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6, whereas each National Laboratory ORTA TTO can submit an unlimited number of full project applications that include more than one lab partner.</b> There are no limits on the number of full applications each National Laboratory ORTA TTO can submit under Topic 4.
Questions	TCF lab call solicitation: <a href="mailto:TCF@hq.doe.gov">TCF@hq.doe.gov</a> Using the online application portal: <a href="mailto:eere-exchangesupport@hq.doe.gov">eere-exchangesupport@hq.doe.gov</a>



# Budget per Project

The table below reflects DOE’s interest in funding multiple labs to address shared commercialization challenges for Topics 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6. Single-lab solutions are of interest; however, to be selected for larger funding amounts, this table suggests that labs should collaborate, and the proposed solutions must be applicable across the collaboration.

Number of Labs Fully Engaged on Project	Proposed Budget, First Year	Proposed Budget, Additional Years
1	\$250,000	
2	\$600,000	\$300,000
3	\$1,050,000	\$600,000
4+	\$1,500,000	\$750,000

# Estimated Funding for this Solicitation

Based on FY22, approximately **\$17.3 – \$20.4M** in annual funding is expected to be available to fund all projects solicited in this lab call pending FY23 appropriations, program direction, and go/no-go decision points.

Program	Funding Range (Millions)
Office of Electricity (OE)	\$1.5–\$1.8
Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (EERE)	\$5.8–\$7.3
Geothermal Technologies Office (GTO)	\$0.9–\$1.0
Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies Office (HFTO)	\$0.9–\$1.3
Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO)	\$2.1–\$2.5
Water Power Technologies Office (WPTO)	\$1.2–\$1.5
Wind Energy Technologies Office (WETO)	\$0.7–\$1.0
Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM)	\$2.0–\$2.3
Office of Nuclear Energy (NE)	\$8.0–\$9.0

At the time of this solicitation release, Congress has not yet passed a full FY23 DOE budget. The estimated budget is based on FY22. The total funding amount available for FY22 will be adjusted accordingly once an official FY23 DOE budget is passed.



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# Background

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# Background

This lab call represents the combined effort of nine distinct U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Technology Offices.

Department of Energy's (DOE's) Office of Technology Transitions, the Office of Electricity, Office of Nuclear Energy, the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management, the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's Geothermal Technologies Office, Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies Office, Solar Energy Technologies Office, Water Power Technologies Office, and Wind Energy Technologies Office.

- The Department of Energy Technology Commercialization Fund (TCF) was established by Congress through the Energy Policy Act of 2005<sup>1</sup> and reauthorized by the recent Energy Act of 2020<sup>2</sup> to “promote promising energy technologies for commercial purposes.”
- Within DOE, the Office of Technology Transitions (OTT) is charged with leading policy and programs related to technology commercialization.

1. Energy Policy Act of 2005, Public Law 109–58, 109<sup>th</sup> Cong. (August 8, 2005), *Improved technology transfer of energy technologies*, 42 U.S. Code § 16391 (a).

2. Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Public Law 116–260, 116<sup>th</sup> Cong. (December 27, 2020), 134 Stat. 2597, Sec. 9003.

<https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ260/PLAW-116publ260.pdf>.

# What is the TCF?

The TCF is a nearly \$30 million funding opportunity that leverages funding in the applied energy programs to mature promising energy technologies with the potential for high impact across DOE's research, development, demonstration, and deployment (RDD&D) RDD&D Continuum.

The TCF uses 0.9 percent of the funding for the Department's applied energy research, development, demonstration, and commercial application budget for each fiscal year from the:

- Office of Electricity
- Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
- Office of Fossil Energy
- Office of Nuclear Energy
- Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response.





# FY23 TCF Base Options

DOE's approach to TCF for FY23 provides program offices two options for deciding how to obligate their FY23 TCF funding

- 1. Customized, Technology-Specific Commercialization Programs:** DOE program offices were given the opportunity to develop their own proposed use of TCF funding that meets the statutory requirements of TCF. These proposed activities can leverage or expand existing technology-specific commercialization programs or create new ones. However, programs must coordinate these activities with OTT, and the focus must remain on funding to National Laboratories to promote the commercialization of DOE-funded technologies
- 2. OTT-led, Joint “Core Laboratory Infrastructure for Commercialization for Market Readiness (CLIMR)” Lab Call:** DOE program offices were given the opportunity to work with OTT and develop a multiple program office joint lab call that combines available appropriated TCF funding to address systemic challenges, core barriers, and known gaps impeding DOE National Laboratory commercialization of promising energy technologies. For FY23, the joint lab call will also seek proposals from Labs to advance the commercialization of individual energy-related technologies.

Appendix B of the lab call provides participating programs for each option.  
Each participating program's individual lab call will have additional details.

# What will be discussed today

## Core Laboratory Infrastructure for Market Readiness (CLIMR)

- DOE continues to implement the revised approach with TCF for Base Annual Appropriations. Persistent barriers and known gaps that deter the commercialization of laboratory technologies continue to exist and improvements are still needed.
- The intent of the Core Laboratory Infrastructure for Commercialization topics (Topics 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6) is to fill in missing infrastructure pieces and strengthen those already there by addressing core commercialization challenges, barriers, and gaps, as well as their root causes (inside and outside of the labs).
- Additionally, for FY23, the lab call will seek proposals from DOE's Labs to advance the commercialization of individual energy-related technologies (Topic 4).

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# Eligibility

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# Eligibility

**Only DOE National Laboratories** are eligible for funding from this lab call.

All applications must be submitted to DOE from each lab's respective Office of Research and Technology Application (ORTA) Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs).

- Applications received from offices other than a lab's ORTA will be rejected.
- All other National Laboratory offices and programs must coordinate with their respective Technology Transfer Offices to submit applications.
- **Labs are highly encouraged partner on proposals.**
- Labs are eligible for multiple awards.



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# Cost-Share

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# Cost Share

**COST SHARE:** This lab call is subject to Section 988(b)(3) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 regarding cost-share. DOE prefers all funded projects to meet 50% of the total project cost-share fund requirement; however, DOE acknowledges that some potentially high-impact proposed projects may not be able to meet this requirement. In this case and following the requirements by topic below, labs may apply with less than 50% cost-share so that DOE can see the full universe of high-quality proposals. The scoring criteria reflect that providing cost-share will increase the likelihood of selection.

- DOE has approved a Cost-Share Waiver for topics 1.b, 2.b, 3.b, 4.b, 4.c, 5.b, and 6.b of this lab call. Projects applying under all subtopics 1.b, 2.b, 3.b, 4.b, 4.c, 5.b, and 6.b are not required to cost-share nonfederal funds of at least 50% of the total project cost to apply. This was done to ensure all project ideas can apply and the most impactful mix of projects can be selected.
- Each proposal that applies to a subtopic (a) commits to meet the 50% of total project cost-share funds requirement. Each proposal that applies to a subtopic 1.b, 2.b, 3.b, 5.b, and 6.b may propose to meet less than the 50% of total project cost-share funds requirement.
- Proposals that apply to subtopic 4.b must meet 20% of the total project cost-share funds. Proposals that apply to subtopic 4.c must meet 10% of the total project cost-share funds. Further details on the criteria for subtopics 4.b and 4.c are listed in the Topic 4 description (see Section I.D.iv. of the Lab Call).
- DOE will evaluate the level of external industry engagement and collaboration as evidence by cost-share to ensure maximum impact of the selected projects. The selection official may determine that a subtopic (b) proposal would be selected except that the proposal does not provide adequate cost-share given the commercial nature of the project activities. In such cases, applicants would be provided the opportunity to increase their cost-share to the default level, and project selection would be contingent on the lab(s) committing to 50% cost-share for the project. If the lab(s) decline, DOE will not fund the project. This does not apply to subtopics 4.b and 4.c.

**See page 10 of the solicitation.**

# Cost-Share

- In addition, the selection official may establish a negotiation strategy that involves increasing cost-share for subtopic (b) applicants that lack adequate cost-share given the commercial nature of the project activities. Applicants would be provided the opportunity to increase their cost-share, and successful project negotiations could be contingent on the lab(s) committing to an increased cost-share for the project. Labs will have the opportunity to accept or decline an adjustment in cost-share. If the lab(s) decline, DOE may not fund the project. This does not apply to subtopics 4.b and 4.c.
- For Topics 1.a, 2.a, 3.a, 4.a, 5.a, and 6.a, the nonfederal cost-share must be at least 50% of total project costs by the conclusion of the project. DOE reserves the right to require the nonfederal cost-share to be met by the end of each budget period.
- For topics 1.b, 2.b, 3.b, 5.b, and 6.b, DOE will negotiate a cost-share rate, which may be any percentage at or under 50%. The nonfederal cost-share at the end of the award must be at least the established percentage agreed upon at the time of award. DOE reserves the right to require the nonfederal cost-share to be met by the end of each budget period.
- The final cost-share requirements for each proposed project will be set at the time of selection and will not be changed during the life of the award. Cost-share requirements will be established on a budget-period-by-budget-period basis during project negotiations and prior to final project award.



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# Topics

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# Topic Areas



## TOPIC 1

### Market Needs Assessment

To integrate market pull into new R&D development, thinking, and program strategy, forming a conduit of market insight and awareness to inform DOE and lab policies and programs that accelerate commercialization



## TOPIC 2

### Curation of Intellectual Property (IP)

To improve how labs ready the IP needed to connect promising energy technologies for commercialization with private sector partners



## TOPIC 3

### Matchmaking

To build partner teams to commercialize promising, curated energy technology IP and lead new technologies to market



## TOPIC 4

### Technology-Specific Partnership Projects

Advance the commercialization of individual or cross-cut technologies developed using DOE funding by national laboratories and facilities that are at a stage that will attract private sector interest.



## TOPIC 5

### Streamlining Laboratory Processes and/or Requirements

To provide a more united, consistent, approach to engaging external partners lab-wide



## TOPIC 6

### Increasing Partnerships with External Commercialization Parties

To improve how labs attract, recruit, and retain external partners to further develop and commercialize technologies

# Topic 1: Market Needs Assessment

This topic will seek proposals from Labs and partner organizations to develop cross-lab industry- and sector-specific “market needs-assessment” capabilities to identify and understand emerging market needs and the related technology solutions that are needed for commercial purposes. This program should also assess the industry-specific technology market needs for clean generation and a secure and modernized energy infrastructure to meet the administration goal to equitably transition the U.S. economy to net-zero greenhouse gas emissions no later than 2050. DOE strongly encourages applicants to partner with external organizations on proposals for this topic.

- Subtopic 1.a: Proposals commit to meet the 50% of total project cost-share funds requirement.
- Subtopic 1.b: Proposals meet less than 50% of total project cost-share funds requirement.

See page 16 of the solicitation.

## Topic 2: Curation of Intellectual Property

This topic will seek bold ideas and significant improvements in how Labs bring their IP to market. Ideas could include enhanced information sharing, IP marketing, or other efforts to curate Lab IP but should generally focus on ensuring Lab-created IP supports solutions to timely energy technology problems. This topic seeks to innovate how Labs connect Lab-created IP with private sector partners. DOE strongly encourages applicants to incorporate findings of the market needs assessment in their proposals as described in Topic 1.

Proposed projects could build on and expand successful, existing activities and programs already underway by labs' TTOs, such as [Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's exploratory license](#) option. Proposals in this topic area are sought for programs and activities above and beyond existing lab efforts and/or to expand successful programs across the entire National Laboratory Complex.

- Subtopic 2.a: Proposals commit to meet the 50% of total project cost-share funds requirement.
- Subtopic 2.b: Proposals meet less than 50% of total project cost-share funds requirement.

See page 17 of the solicitation.



## Topic 3: Matchmaking

This topic will seek proposals from Labs to create or expand business incubation programming that will result in the creation of teams that will move Lab IP to market. Programming could include recruitment of talent outside of the Lab, matchmaking programs to connect entrepreneurs with Lab staff and resources, and additional support that will yield commercialization of promising, Lab-created IP.

Proposals should also address the additional, needed programming and services such as business plan support, funding, business expertise and mentoring, investor and corporate connections, etc., that teams need as they bring their new product to market. DOE strongly encourages applicants to partner with external organizations on proposals for this topic. DOE also strongly encourages applicants to incorporate connections to programming in their proposals as described under Topics 1 and 2.

- Subtopic 3.a: Proposals commit to meet the 50% of total project cost-share funds requirement.
- Subtopic 3.b: Proposals meet less than 50% of total project cost-share funds requirement.

See page 19 of the solicitation.

## Topic 4: Technology Specific Partnerships

This topic will seek proposals from Labs to advance the commercialization of individual energy-related technologies. Projects funded under this topic will need to incorporate Lab-created IP and be at a stage that will generate private sector interest. The FY22 TCF Core Laboratory Infrastructure for Commercialization Lab Call did not accept proposals under this topic; however, proposals will be accepted under this topic in FY23.

Applications must demonstrate clear evidence of commercial potential that combines technology progress with market pull or interest. Ideal applications will include technologies with identified utility and potential impact to industry, market viability, and a clear commercialization path forward. Key milestones for applications under this topic must be commercialization focused, not technology focused, and demonstrate a clear understanding of barriers to commercial adoption (e.g., market entry barriers, regulatory barriers, supply chain barriers) and how they can be overcome.

Areas of interest for this topic are limited to applications that address one or more of the technology missions listed below. Applicants should consult the mission statement for the program(s) they are seeking funding from. Applications from Labs centered on technologies developed under DOE consortia are encouraged but not required.

## Topic 4 continued

**Crosscutting technology applications are also highly encouraged.** Applications must fully demonstrate direct relevance to two or more technologies. Crosscut applications must fully demonstrate how the proposed project addresses each listed technology area. DOE reserves the right to move crosscut concepts to a single technology area or to move concepts submitted for a single technology area to the crosscut category.

- **Subtopic 4.a:** Proposals commit to meet the 50% of total project cost-share funds requirement.
- **Subtopic 4.b:** Proposals commit to cost-share at least 20% of total project cost. To be eligible for this subtopic, labs must be partnered with a small business(es) as defined by the U.S. Small Business Administration.
- **Subtopic 4.c:** Proposals commit to cost-share at least 10% of total project cost. To be eligible for this subtopic, labs must be partnered with domestic institutions of higher education; domestic nonprofit entities; U.S. state, local, or tribal government entities; or small businesses that are also certified as veteran-owned; women-owned; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT)-owned; or otherwise disadvantaged businesses by the U.S. Small Business Administration; members of the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce; or verified Veteran-Owned by the Veterans Administration.

## Topic 5: Streamlining Laboratory Processes and/or Requirements

This topic focuses on streamlining connecting elements and making them similar across labs, when possible, in order to provide a more united and consistent approach to engaging external partners.

One of the largest perennial barriers to DOE laboratory commercialization are the limited mechanisms available at most labs to allow lab staff to engage in entrepreneurial pursuits and/or partner with external entities. This topic will seek proposals from Labs to streamline internal Lab processes to move Lab-developed, promising energy-related technologies toward commercial purposes, as well as to enable faster and simpler commercialization processes. Process improvements could focus on improvements to contracting mechanisms, licensing of IP, and other ideas to streamline processes and catalyze synergies.

DOE envisions that these improvements could connect and flow into the new or enhanced programming described in Topics 1 through 3 as well as Topic 6. DOE strongly encourages applicants to partner with external organizations on proposals for this topic.

- Subtopic 5.a: Proposals commit to meet the 50% of total project cost-share funds requirement.
- Subtopic 5.b: Proposals meet less than 50% of total project cost-share funds requirement.

**See page 33 of the solicitation.**

## Topic 6: Increasing Partnerships with External Commercialization Parties

This topic seeks to address the second critical enabling and supporting activity that is vital to effective technology transition out of National Labs. Activities focused on partnering with external parties and their related programs and efforts, such as industry day events, industry advising on lab projects, and even industry-led incubation or acceleration programs, are currently different at different labs. As such, individually and cumulatively, they present major barriers to external partners wanting to commercialize lab IP, particularly when each lab has its own unique programs, events, etc. Thus, external parties interested in working with more than one lab must learn and work through multiple approaches to external partner engagement.

This topic seeks proposals from Labs to make it easier for the private sector to work with National Labs. Proposals could include streamlining the partnering process as well as efforts to standardize the partnering process across multiple Labs. Goals of this topic area are to decrease barriers to working with the Labs, increase the number and diversity of private sector partners, and accelerate and deepen connectivity with external commercialization parties.

- Subtopic 6.a: Proposals commit to meet the 50% of total project cost-share funds requirement.
- Subtopic 6.b: Proposals meet less than 50% of total project cost-share funds requirement.

**See page 35 of the solicitation.**



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# Partnering

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# Partnering

DOE highly encourages labs to partner with **external organizations and private companies**, as such partners may have deep knowledge and experience performing many of the activities described in the topics, some may have already built needed components under many of the topic areas below, and some may help advance DOE's DEIA goals.

All partnerships between the labs and outside partners **must comply with individual lab requirements under their management and operating (M&O) contracts.**

Partners must agree to engage in activities that focus on commercializing or deploying technologies in the marketplace and are highly encouraged to provide cost-share

- **Partners can be any nonfederal entity**, including private companies, state or local governments (or entities created by a state or local government), colleges, universities, tribal entities, or nonprofit organizations.
- Because only National Laboratory TTO staff are eligible to apply and are responsible for coordinating interlab, across labs, and with external partners, a list of lab TTO points of contact are provided in Appendix C of the solicitation.

**See page 14 of the solicitation.**



# Teaming Partner List

To the extent possible and appropriate, DOE also seeks multi-lab projects that involve industry engagement or industry partners as well, to enhance the “market pull” aspects of the commercialization programming.

To expedite external partnerships in support of this lab call, DOE is compiling a “Teaming Partner List” to facilitate the formation of new project teams for this lab call. The Teaming Partner List allows organizations that may wish to participate on an application to express their interest to other applicants and to explore potential partnerships.

Please refer to the Manuals section on Exchange for more detailed instructions on using the Teaming Partner List.

**See page 14 of the solicitation.**

Submission Instructions: Any organization that would like to be included on this list should find the Teaming Partner List for this solicitation (TPL-0000001) on [Exchange](#) and submit the following information:

- Organization Name
- Organization Type
- Website
- Contact Name
- Contact Address
- Contact Email
- Contact Phone
- Area of Expertise
- Brief Description of Capabilities
- Applicable Topic and Subtopic.

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# Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA)

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# Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA):

A full in-depth discussion on DEIA will occur on January 4, 2023, at 2:30 pm ET

Applicants are required to reference, if available, the existing laboratory DEIA plan and describe how diversity, equity, and inclusion objectives will be incorporated in the project. Specifically, applicants are required to describe the actions the applicant will take to foster a welcoming and inclusive environment, support people from underrepresented groups in STEM, advance equity, and encourage the inclusion of individuals from these groups in the project, and the extent to which the project activities will be located in or benefit underserved communities

The proposed project should include at least one SMART (Specific, Measurable, Assignable, Realistic and Time-Related) milestone per budget period supported by DEIA relevant metrics to measure the success of the proposed actions. Because a diverse set of voices at the table in research, design, and execution has an illustrated positive impact on innovation, this implementation strategy for the proposed project will be evaluated as part of the application review process.



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# Concept Paper Stage

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# Concept Papers

To be eligible to submit a full application, applicants must submit a concept paper. Labs are required to submit the concept paper in Exchange no later than January 25, 2023.

DOE will review the concept paper, and applicants will receive an official determination. DOE will encourage or discourage concepts at this stage. The intent is to help the labs focus their efforts on the concepts with the highest potential under this lab call. Labs will receive a DOE determination as to whether they are encouraged to move to the next step or discouraged from moving forward. Only Labs that receive an encourage determination on the concept paper will be allowed to submit a full application.

# Concept Papers

Concept papers are required to include (see page 40 of the solicitation):

Section	Page Limit	Description
Cover Page	1 page maximum	The cover page should include the project title, the topic(s) and/or AOs being addressed, points of contact, and name of the lab and any partners.
Project Description	3 pages maximum	Applicants are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe the project in enough detail that it may be evaluated for its innovation, impact, and relevance to the topic objectives</li><li>• Describe relevant background information that helps demonstrate the need for this project, including the problem statement or major challenges and barriers being overcome through the project and the approach to solving the problem</li><li>• Show the impact that DOE funding and the proposed project would have on the relevant field and application</li><li>• Describe how the proposed project, if successfully accomplished, would clearly meet the objectives stated in the lab call.</li></ul>
Addendum	2 pages maximum	Applicants are required to describe succinctly the qualifications, experience, and capabilities of the proposed project team, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Whether the project team has the skill and expertise needed to successfully execute the project plan</li><li>• Whether the applicant has prior experience that demonstrates an ability to perform tasks of similar risk and complexity</li><li>• Whether the applicant has worked together with their teaming partners on prior projects or programs</li><li>• Whether the applicant has adequate access to equipment and facilities necessary to accomplish the effort and/or clearly explain how they intend to obtain access to the necessary equipment and facilities.</li><li>• Applicants may provide graphs, charts, or other data to supplement their project description.</li></ul>

# Concept Papers

Concept papers are evaluated based on consideration the following factor.

## 1. Concept Paper Criterion: Overall Lab Call Responsiveness and Viability of the Project (Weight: 100%)

This criterion involves consideration of the following factors:

- The applicant clearly describes the project in enough detail that it may be evaluated for its innovation, impact, and relevance to the topic objectives
- The applicant clearly describes relevant background information that helps demonstrate the need for this project, including the problem statement or major challenges and barriers being overcome through the project and the approach to solving the problem
- The applicant has shown the impact that TCF funding and the proposed project would have on the relevant field and application
- The applicant clearly identifies the topic(s) they are applying for and how they meet the required elements of the topic(s)
- The applicant has the qualifications, experience, capabilities, and other resources necessary to complete the proposed project
- The proposed work, if successfully accomplished, would clearly meet the objectives as stated in the lab call



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# Full Application Stage

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# Full Applications

- Please read the lab call in its entirety for all full application requirements.
- DOE will not review or consider ineligible full applications. Each full application shall be limited to a single concept. Unrelated concepts shall not be consolidated in a single full application.
- Applicants must receive an encourage determination on their concept paper to be eligible to submit a full application.
- **FULL APPLICATIONS:** Building on the feedback from the concept paper, labs are encouraged to further expand their concept into a full application. **Full applications are required to be eligible for award(s) under this solicitation.**

# Full Application Requirements

Full Applications need to include:

- Title Page
- 1.0 Summary
- 2.0 Project Description
- 3.0 DEIA
- 4.0 Potential Commercialization Advances
- 5.0 Work Plan
- 6.0 Impact Tracking
- 7.0 Team and Required Resources
- 8.0 Cost Sharing
- 9.0 Proposed Base Budget and Options
- 10.0 References
- 11.0 Team Resumes
- 12.0 Project Summary Slide for Public Release

Full Details on the requirements of each section are found on pages 41-48 of the Lab Call

# Full Application Scoring Criteria

- **Criterion 1: Innovation and Impact (45%)** : How innovative and impactful is the project, assuming the stated outcomes can be achieved as written?

Innovative	Accelerates Speed of Commercialization	Impactful
Long-Term Viability	Scalable	Commercialization Outcomes
Cost-Share Commitment	Evidence of Commercial Potential	

- **Criterion 2: Quality and Likelihood of Completion of Stated Goals (35%)**: Are the stated goals of the project SMART, and are they likely to be accomplished within the scope of this project? Is there a likelihood of success for the proposed project?

Measurable	Risks mitigated	Validated
Reasonable assumptions	Reasonable budget	

- **Criterion 3: Collaboration and Capability of the Applicant and Holistic Project Team (20%)**:

Collaboration	Capable	Participation
Team Quality	Past Performance	Access

These criteria are described in detail beginning at [page 51](#) of the solicitation

# Selections and Notification

- **Merit Review and Selection Process:** Selection of winning proposals will be determined based on available funding and input from DOE and external reviewers. In general, DOE will use data and other information contained in proposals for evaluation purposes only, unless such information is generally available to the public or is already the property of the government.
  - DOE carefully considers all information obtained through the selection process. DOE may select or not select a proposal for negotiations. DOE may also postpone a final selection determination on one or more proposals until a later date, subject to availability of funds and other factors. OTT will notify applicants if they are, or are not, selected for award negotiation.
  - DOE will only select proposed projects that support the statutory requirement of the TCF to “promote promising energy technologies for commercial purposes.”
- **Selection Notification:** DOE anticipates completing the selection and negotiation process by Q4 FY23 (subject to change). DOE will notify lab leads electronically of selection results. All of DOE’s decisions are final when communicated to applicants.
- **Projects selected for award** are managed by the DOE facilities in accordance with their requisite policies and procedures. OTT will provide all required project oversight and engagement with TCF project recipients; DOE program offices participating in this lab call are encouraged to engage as well.



# Questions?

Specific questions about this lab call should be submitted via e-mail to [TCF@hq.doe.gov](mailto:TCF@hq.doe.gov).

To ensure fairness across all labs, individual DOE staff cannot answer questions while the lab call remains open.

OTT will post all questions and answers on Exchange.

Questions about Exchange: <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/FAQ.aspx>